

ABSTRACT

A METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING A THIN FILM MIRROR

A method of constructing a thin film mirror, which method comprises:

- (i) providing a suction chamber (2) with edges (4) which lie on a required mirror surface;
- (ii) providing tensioning means which is forced into contact with film (8) adjacent to at least one of the edges of the suction chamber such that tension in the film parallel to the edge is increased; and
- (iii) providing holding means (12) for
 - (a) holding the tensioning means (10);
 - (b) locally adjusting holding pressure on the tensioning means (10); and
 - (c) feeding the tensioning means (10) into position after the film (8) has been attached to the suction chamber (2).